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**APR 12 2006**

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP ART UNIT 1615**

213.1077-CRNL-U

**UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Examiner: Channavajjala, L. S. Art Unit: 1615  
Re: Application of: Choe, *et al.*  
Serial No.: 10/078,730  
Filed: February 19, 2002  
For: **TERMINALLY-BRANCHED POLYMERIC  
LINKERS AND POLYMERIC CONJUGATES  
CONTAINING THE SAME**  
Confirmation No.: 5356

**AMENDMENT**

**VIA FAX 571 273 8300**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 12, 2006

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated January 12, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Argument** begin on page 17 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION  
I hereby certify that this document is  
being facsimile transmitted to the  
Commissioner of Patents on the  
date shown below.

April 12, 2006

LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP

BY: 

Michael N. Mercanti